

ORION

CREW EXPLORATION VEHICLE

WEEKLY ACCOMPLISHMENTS



05.06.10

Launch, Launch, Launch.



After years of hard work, dedication, professional excellence and personal sacrifices, the Pad Abort 1 team executed a fully successful test at White Sands Missile Range (WSMR). With the success of the test, The NASA and commercial industry team overcame the last of many obstacles in demonstrating the new launch abort technology that is the next step in human rating the Constellation Orion crew exploration vehicle that will ensure the safety of our astronauts during future exploration missions. The test demonstrated the integrated operation of three newly developed rocket motors each of which represent unique contributions to the state of the art in solid rocket propulsion. All initial data indicate that everything from the motors to the parachutes performed to expectation or better. The team will recover all test assets for inspection and collect the flight data over the next 24 hours for detailed performance evaluation to be conducted over the next 90 days.



Shown is the Launch Abort Vehicle at launch (top photos) and the flight test article crew module just after the main parachutes deployed (bottom).

